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MIKE FEUER

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September 10, 2007

Ned Crabb, Letters Editor
The Wall Street Journal

Via e-mail: wsj.ltrs@wsj.com

Dear Editors:

Kimberly Strassel betrays a stunning misunderstanding of the facts in deriding the tremendous efforts of Senator Feinstein and others to preserve West Los Angeles' Veterans Affairs property. ("Rambo's View," September 7.) In reality, Sen. Feinstein's legislation would prevent the Bush Administration from jettisoning a crucial national resource for what at best would be short-term economic gain. At a time when our country is engaged in major combat overseas it would be grimly ironic--not to mention incredibly short-sighted-- to fail to protect this property for future, veteran-oriented use.

Along with mischaracterizing what's at stake, Ms. Strassel stoops to utterly inaccurate stereotypes in misdescribing opponents of the Administration's ill-conceived land grab. That opposition cuts across economic lines and includes veterans currently being served by the facility. Opponents recognize that this land - deeded in 1888 for the purpose of providing direct benefits to veterans - should be dedicated to that purpose and not merely sold to the highest bidder.

If the Bush Administration were truly serious about funding veterans' services, it would start by reconsidering its stubborn insistence on preserving tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. I applaud Senator Feinstein, Senator Boxer, Congressman Waxman and the broad coalition they have assembled for keeping the focus where it must be: on the long-term needs of those who, at great personal cost, have bravely served our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Feuer".

Mike Feuer
California State Assembly

